

3.0 PRIOR STUDIES AND REPORTS

The NRCS began an investigation of land and water resource problems including flooding in the Lower Mud River watershed in 1972, under authority of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, PL 83-566. The NRCS managed the program investigations, which are limited to watersheds with a maximum of 250,000 acres. The Lower Mud River Watershed Association was the local study sponsor. The watershed investigation involved all of the area from the confluence of Mud River with the Guyandotte River at Barboursville to the confluence of Middle Fork with Mud River at Hamlin, approximately 263 square miles or 168,320 acres. This early investigation culminated with completion of the Lower Mud River Watershed Plan and EIS in May 1993, in which a channel improvement project on the Mud River in the vicinity of Milton was recommended. Since this plan dealt primarily with urban flooding problems, authority to complete the project was transferred to the Corps in 1996 by the previously referenced congressional legislation.

land use/cover

water, 3-1

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